

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

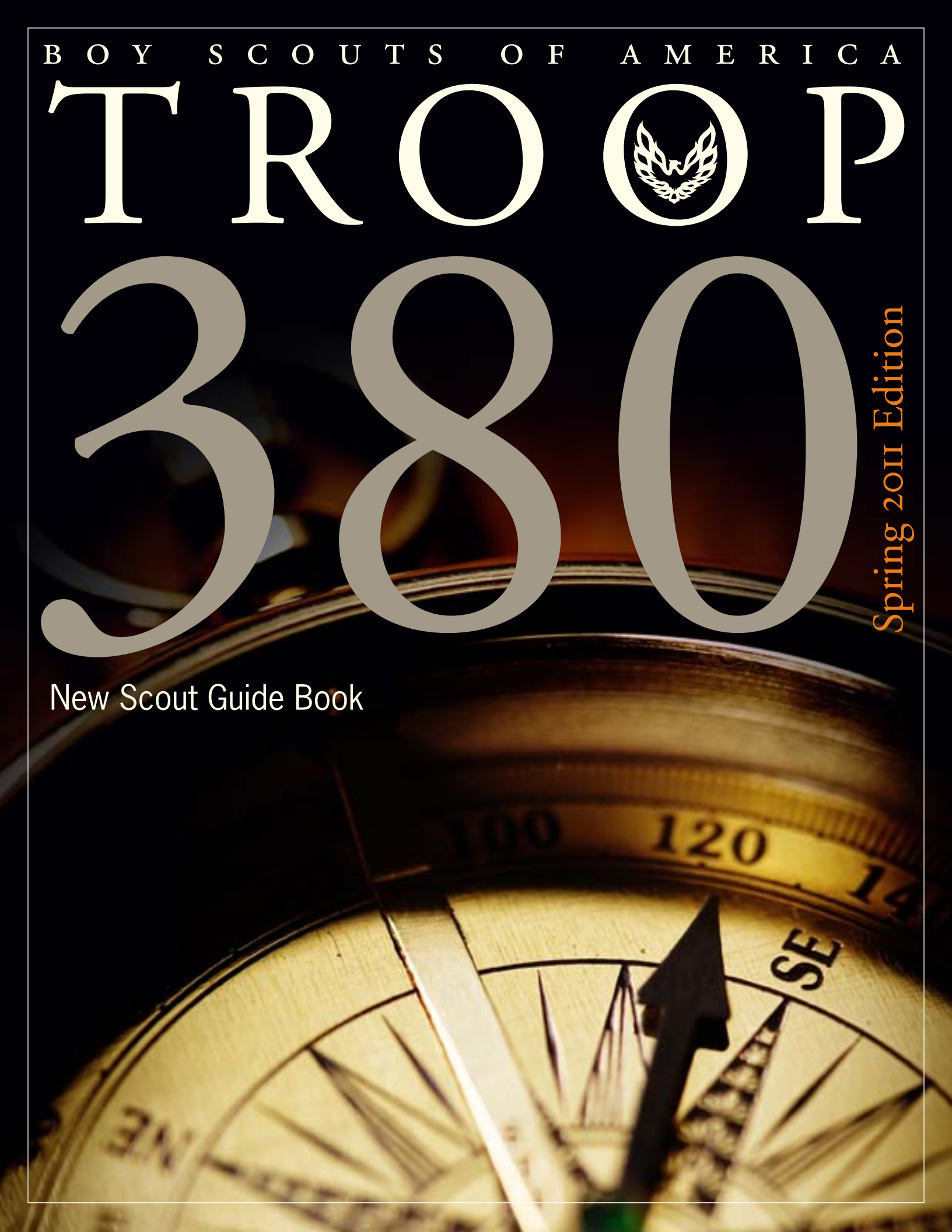
TROOP



380

Spring 2011 Edition

New Scout Guide Book



Introduction

We welcome you to Troop 380, located in Sacramento, California. We are part of the Capitol City District here in Sacramento, which in turn is part of the Golden Empire Council, which consists of Districts from Sacramento north to the Oregon Border.

The Emmanuel Baptist Church sponsors the troop. Our troop was formed in 1971 and is one of the strongest troops in our Council. Our strength comes from our consistency in leadership, parent participation, activities and, of course, great Scouts.

This book provides you will the basic information relating to our troop. We hope it will answer many of your questions. However, please do not hesitate to contact any of our adult leaders should you have additional questions.

Again, we welcome you and your family to Troop 380.

Meeting Information

Location and Time

Troop meetings are held every Monday night from 7:00 to 8:30 at the Emmanuel Baptist Church at 9350 Kiefer Boulevard. These meetings are held weekly all year long with the exception of certain holidays as shown on the Troop Calendar or unless you are notified that a meeting has been cancelled or changed to another date.

Please arrive at least 15 minutes before the meeting starts. Both Scout and parent are asked to check the information board and table at the front of the chapel for any relevant information and activity permission slips.

Scouts: If you have items to take care of such as permission slips, finances or advancement, please allow yourself time before the meeting starts to complete these tasks. Parents may take care of some troop items (payments, purchases, etc.) during the troop meeting.

Attendance at the meetings is very important. If you miss a meeting, you may miss some real fun and a chance for advancement. Also, we review all upcoming events, and you may not receive the information you want.

There are attendance sheets at every meeting. Please be sure you sign in. Attendance awards are given at each Court of Honor.

Spirit of Cooperation

During meetings and activities it is very important that all Scouts maintain a "Spirit of Cooperation". This means being respectful to both the adult and Scout leaders and to your fellow Scouts by not talking or disrupting the meetings in any way. When someone is talking to the group, we expect you to be quiet and not talk to your neighbor or talk out of turn without raising your hand. While we want all of you to participate, it must be done in an organized and respectful manner.

When in patrols or other groups, make sure you follow the same Spirit. Often there is an agenda or goal the group needs to accomplish. Allow your leader to lead the discussion. Do not participate in a conversation that is not directed to the group. Help the group to accomplish their goal.

Courts of Honor

Four times a year the troop holds a court of honor instead of a regular meeting. The court of honor is where Scout advancement is recognized. Traditionally, the troop may also have a dinner or another activity at some of the courts of honor. There may also be slide shows of Scout activities. Parents are strongly encouraged to attend all Court of Honors to support our Scouts.

Leadership and Patrols

Our troop is run by the Scouts themselves. There are various positions in the troop, some of which are filled by election and some by appointment. Elections are held three times a year with the Scouts voting for second assistant senior patrol leader. A Scout serves in each position for four months. Scouts must be at the First Class rank to hold an office. You are expected to give the utmost respect to the Scouts in these positions.

Elected Positions

Senior Patrol Leader (SPL) – This is the top leadership position in the troop. The SPL is responsible for running the weekly meetings and organizing the Scouts at troop campouts and activities. He leads the patrol leaders' council (PLC) and does all the planning with the Scoutmaster. At the monthly troop committee meeting, he reports on the troop's activities. He also communicates with his assistants and the patrol leaders. The first assistant moves into this position after completing his term.

First Assistant Senior Patrol Leader – The Scout in this position moves from second assistant. He is responsible for planning the program for the weekly meetings.

Second Assistant Senior Patrol Leader – The Scout in this position is elected by all of the Scouts in the troop. He is responsible for the physical setup of the meetings and for the game, if any. He also schedules the Scoutmaster Conferences and the Boards of Review and gives the newspaper report at the Troop Committee meetings.

Other Leadership Positions

The troop also has the following leadership positions. These positions are appointed by the Senior Patrol Leader for a three month period.

Scribe - This position is appointed by the Senior Patrol Leader and his assistants. He is responsible for getting the newsletter articles from Scouts who participated in activities and for overseeing the attendance sheets. He also takes minutes of the meetings and posts them in the Scribe book.

Chaplain Aide – The troop’s spiritual assistant. He leads the Interfaith Service on Sunday mornings on campouts and is available to counsel other Scouts.

Quartermaster – Maintains the troop equipment. He is responsible for overseeing the check out and check in of equipment on a campout.

Historian – Documents the troop history through photographs and writings.

Librarian – Maintains the troop library of merit badge books available for Scout use.

Troop Guide – Assigned to the new patrols to assist them with learning about patrol and troop procedures and activities. He also assists the new Scouts with advancement.

Den Chief – Serves a Cub Scout den as a mentor. He attends all Cub Scout meetings and activities and teaches them about Scouting. He also assists the den at their monthly Pack meeting and sets a good example as to what Scouting is all about.

Patrols

The troop is organized into patrols of eight to ten Scouts each. The patrol is the foundation of the Scouting organization and is what makes a large group workable. The patrols are usually organized into one or two patrols for new Scouts and by similar rank groups for the other Scouts. Each patrol has a name, a patrol patch for their uniform, a patrol flag and a patrol yell.

The patrol is run by a patrol leader and an assistant patrol leader. These are important positions of responsibility and require a commitment on the part of the Scouts in these positions. Patrol meetings are held during the regular troop meetings twice a month. The patrol leader is responsible for running these meetings, dispersing information from the troop to the Scouts in his patrol through weekly phone calls, and overseeing the patrol on campouts. He also represents his patrol at patrol leaders’ council.

Patrols also have responsibilities at the meetings. Each week a patrol is assigned to three areas for the following week. They include service patrol (setting up the meeting room before hand, and cleaning it up afterwards), and flags (conducting the opening and closing flag ceremonies). Please make sure you come early and stay late if your patrol has responsibilities to take care of.

If you have any questions regarding a meeting or activity, your patrol leader should be the first person you call for information. It is his responsibility to call patrol members weekly and keep them informed of troop meetings and activities.

Adult Leadership

The day to day operations of the program are run by the Scoutmaster, Dave Ishikawa. Dave oversees the meetings, activities, campouts and long range planning of the troop.

The troop has a number of assistant Scoutmasters who assist Dave with his responsibilities.

- Scoutmaster - Dave Ishikawa
- 1st ASM - Mike Kuykendall
- New Scout ASM – Neil Ishikawa
- Advancement ASM - Floyd Brown
- Advancement ASM - Gary Lentsch
- Fundraising/Information ASM - Chris Ishikawa
- Quartermaster ASM - Joe Reynolds
- Eagle Advancement ASM - Johnnie Pennington
- Merit Badge ASM - Bob Williamson
- Newsletter ASM - Sheri Rush
- Clothes Closet ASM - Jim Buell
- Transportation ASM - Sheri Rush
- Finance ASM and Troop Treasurer - Becky Mesker
- Order of the Arrow ASM/Liason -Erik Carlson
- Instrutors ASM - Ralph Merrill
- Troop 380 has many more ASM not listed here

Roster

A troop roster of all Scouts and Scouters, with names, addresses, telephone numbers and parent names is maintained by the Advancement Chairman. These rosters are made available to all troop members at least semi annually or upon request.

If at any time the above information changes, please notify the Advancement Chairman immediately.

A current troop roster follows this page.

Uniforms

Uniforming is very important in Troop 380, and all Scouts and Scoutmasters are expected to be in complete uniform at all Scouting events.

The **Class A** uniform is to be worn to all meetings and Scout events unless you are told otherwise. The Class A uniform is also worn for all travel to and from campouts.

Class B uniforms are usually worn on hikes, work days, etc.

If you are not sure what to wear, call your patrol leader. Or you can wear your Class A uniform with your Class B T-shirt underneath.

Class A Uniform:

Troop 380 khaki shirt, with all applicable patches properly sewn on
Boy Scout shorts
Boy Scout belt
Boy Scout socks
Troop 380 hat
Troop 380 neckerchief
Neckerchief slide

Class B Uniform:

Troop 380 red t shirt
Boy Scout shorts
Boy Scout belt
Boy Scout socks
Troop 380 hat

Clothes Closet

The troop maintains a clothes closet for our Scouts. They are items in good shape which are no longer useful to its original owner and include outgrown items, items from those no longer in Scouting, etc. Please contact our clothes closet coordinator if you are in need of an item.

Other items

Each Scout in the Troop is also expected to have a Troop 380 sweatshirt, a red Troop 380 T-shirt, and a Troop 380 windbreaker (this is what the various activity patches are sewn onto).

The merit badge sash is to be worn to Courts of Honor.

All insignia on the Class A uniform is expected to be complete and up-to-date. Attached is a sheet showing correct badge placement.

On the first Monday of each month, the Scout may wear any neckerchief he has received in Scouting. These are often given to Scouts for special recognition in the troop or at summer camp, or are from high adventure activities.

Scout Handbook

Each Scout must have an official Scout handbook issued by the Boy Scouts of America. You are to bring your handbook to each meeting and campout. The handbook serves as your documentation of your advancement in the troop. All completed activities are entered into the book by the Scoutmaster or his assistants. It is your final record of your Scouting advancement.

The handbook also serves as an excellent resource for information needed to complete the various rank advancements.

We also recommend that you cover your handbook to protect it from the constant wear and the elements. Canvas book covers are available at the Scout Store at the local council office or you may make your own. It is also a good idea to print your name on the top and bottom of the bottom so it can be easily identified.

Dues and Fundraising

Our troop treasurer is always available before and during the meetings to discuss finances. She is always located at the front of the chapel at the table on the right.

The troop maintains an accounting on each Scout. Each Scout participating in an activity is expected to pay for that activity before it takes place. Credits earned and payments made are applied to each Scout's account.

Dues

The troop currently assesses dues of \$100 per year per Scout. These funds are used to support the activities of the troop including supplies, equipment, awards, activities and program.

Dues are payable on June 1 of each year. Payment arrangements are acceptable, as long as they are discussed in advance with the troop treasurer.

When you participate in fundraisers with the troop, your credits will always be applied first to dues for the year, and then to other activities.

Boys Life

A subscription to Boy's Life, the Scouting magazine for boys, is available through the troop for an additional fee. Please see the treasurer if you would like a subscription.

Fundraising

The Troop believes that the Scouts and parents who participate in the fundraisers are the Scouts that should benefit the most. For each fundraiser, the profits are kept track of by the troop treasurer and the credits earned are then directly credited to that Scout's account. This allows parents the choice of paying for all activities and costs, or by having their Scout earn his own way. We recommend that all Scouts participate in at least some fundraising during the year, as it makes the Scout appreciate the activities more.

On large fundraisers, the troop will keep a small percentage of the net income to help finance troop activities.

This is another reason all Scouts should participate in some fundraising, so that all Scouts in the troop are contributing to its financial needs.

Our fundraising during the year is almost constant and varied. You choose what you would like to participate in. Our current fundraisers include candy sales, Entertainment Book sales, magazine sales, food booths at various events in the Sacramento area, popcorn sales, and Christmas tree pickup.

Should you choose to participate in a fundraising event, please be courteous and accommodating to the person in charge of that fundraiser. Trying to coordinate a large fundraiser is a tremendous task in this troop. If you have signed up to participate and cannot make it, please call the person in charge and let them know. If you need to turn in money, please do so on time. It is your help and cooperation that keeps the spirit of the troop going strong.

Communication

We attempt to communicate in a variety of ways so that all information gets to all of those involved with the troop. Keep in mind that communication is a two way street, and the effort must be made by not only the adult and Scout leadership, but by each Scout and his parent also.

Troop Calendar

The troop maintains an annual calendar of events. This calendar is put together when the Scouts plan their activities for the year each August. The calendar is usually available to view by the August committee meeting, and available on the troop website.

The calendar lists all campouts, meetings, and fundraisers for the next year. However, because there may be unavoidable changes at times (though we try to keep them to a minimum), please look for changes in the newsletters.

The current troop calendar is available on the troop website at www.t380.org.

Telephone Tree

The troop also communicates through a telephone tree utilizing the patrol method. Each weekend, and at other times when necessary, the senior patrol leader calls each patrol leader with information. The patrol leaders then in turn call each member of their patrol with the information. Let the senior patrol leader know if you are not getting a phone call from your patrol leader.

Announcement Board and Information Table

At every meeting at the front of the church chapel, the troop has both an announcement board and an information table. The announcement board lists all upcoming activities (usually for the next month), along with dates, times, etc.

The information table has permission slips for activities, signup sheets, and fundraiser information. The table also has someone there to answer any questions you may have (or direct you to someone who can) about upcoming activities.

We recommend that you check the announcement board and information table at every meeting.

E-Mail

The troop maintains an email list and announcements are sent to each person on the list on a regular basis (usually weekly). To have your name added to the list, send your request to: sm-380@comcasr.net

Web Page

Our web page for the troop includes current announcements, a list of leadership, our "Honor Roll", the troop calendar and photos of recent events. Visit the web page at: www.t380.org

Newsletter

The "Troop 380 Eagle" is produced for every Court of Honor. It usually includes news from the Scoutmaster and the Troop Committee chairperson, Scout written articles about various events and activities, upcoming event information, and a listing of current awards. The newsletter is only available online.

Twitter

The troop has been TESTING the use of twitter, **BSAtroop380**. We would like to use this a tool to get you information, reminders, and to let you know when we will be arriving home from camp.

Parent Participation

All parents in the troop are invited and **expected to participate** in the troop. You can get as involved as you would like, from bringing cookies to a Court of Honor to heading up an activity or major fundraiser. The parent participation in our troop has always been high, and parents are a major factor in the success of this troop. Also, more times than not, the Scouts whose parents are active in the troop are often the most successful. They learn by example: If it is important to you, it will be important to them.

Troop 380 encourages parent participation in all activities. **Parents are always welcome on campouts**, though we discourage siblings, as it is a Scout event. If your Scout is new to the troop, be sure to give him some independence and let him go on the first few campouts on his own. He will learn more and get to know his fellow Scouts better.

We encourage you to become a registered adult with our troop. All you need to do is to fill out an application and pay the current BSA registration fee.

We always need drivers for our campouts and activities. You can stay with us if you want, or just drop off the Scouts and return home. Please be sure to fill out a Driver Form for our insurance purposes before you drive any Scouts.

Not sure how to volunteer? Look on the front table for signup sheets for fundraisers, attend troop Committee meetings, or go with your Scout on an activity.

The adults in our troop (they are called Scouters) give a tremendous amount of time to provide your son with the

finest experience in Scouting. We believe that Scouting is an outstanding program for young men, and Troop 380 will have a major role in your son's life. In exchange for our time, we ask the following from you:

- Get to know us – You should know the people who take your son on campouts & trips.
- **Pick your Scout up on time from campouts and meetings.** We can't leave a scout alone to wait for a ride home. When we have spent all weekend working for your son, it simply isn't fair to make us stay even longer waiting for a scout to be picked up.
- If your Scout has questions or concerns, have him start with his patrol leader, then the Senior Patrol Leader. If he can't get his answer there, he may call a trained, registered adult, usually the one in charge of the activity.
- Provide proper uniforms and equipment and make sure your Scout is appropriately dressed for all activities.
- **Be involved!** Provide rides to campouts; help out with activities, etc.
- Attend Courts of Honor. They are only four times per year and your Scout needs you there when they receive an award. And even if your Scout isn't receiving anything, the other Scouts deserve an audience for their accomplishments.
- Pay your dues and other expenses on time. We can't provide the activities and equipment if we don't receive our funds promptly.

Thank you for being a part of Troop 380. It takes all of your consideration and support to make this troop successful.

Troop Committee

Congratulations! You are now a member of our Troop Committee! The Troop Committee consists of the parents of each Scout and other committed Scouters. We typically meet on the last Tuesday of each month at 7:30 pm at the Emmanuel Baptist Church. This meeting is for adults only.

The Committee discusses troop business, including fundraisers, activities, procedures, and other items. It also hears and votes on presentations of Eagle Scout projects, reports from the Scout leadership and general information. This is your best opportunity to hear what is going on with the troop, participate in the decisions being made, and volunteer for parent participation.

Our Troop Committee meetings are normally well attended, with 30-40 participants each month. We hope to see you there!

Our current committee leaders are:

Chairperson - Zenaida Kamine
Scoutmaster Organizer - Chris Ishikawa
Secretary - Tonia Cameron
Treasurer - Becky Mesker
Trading Post - Peggy Merrill
Gopher - Sally Shaw

Boards of Review

As part of their advancement through the ranks, the Scouts must pass a Board of Review. These Boards are made up of at least three adults (excluding the Scoutmaster and Assistant Scoutmasters who sign off on their books). The Board talks to the Scout and asks questions about their Scouting experience. It is a great way to get to know the Scouts in the troop and vice versa.

Training for Boards of Review are held once or twice a year. Look for an announcement and volunteer to participate in this critical Scout experience.

Merit Badge Counselors

Merit badge counselors work with the Scouts on a merit badge the Scout has chosen. The merit badge counselor is expected to have some background in the subject area, and to have gone through a counselor training. They also must be a registered adult with the troop.

A list of the merit badge counselors is maintained by the district. When a Scout wants to work on a particular badge,

get a list of names from the advancement chairperson and then contacts a counselor. The counselor then guides the Scout through the merit badge.

If you are interested in being a merit badge counselor, please see our merit badge assistant Scoutmaster.

Adult Training

There are various types of training available for our adult participants. Some is required and some is voluntary.

Youth Protection Training

Youth Protection Training is required of all adults working with Scouts. It is a highly acclaimed one and a half hour program dealing with protecting our Scouts and recognizing signs of abuse. The training is available online at www.scouting.org. Participants must be retrained every two years.

Boy Scout Adult Basic Training

This training is offered online at www.scouting.org. It is highly recommended to all of our parents, and many in our troop

have participated. The course covers how a Scout troop is run, what the Scout program offers, and basics in various activities such as advancement, camping, outdoor cooking, etc.

Wood Badge

Wood Badge is a advanced Scout leadership course covering many areas of Scouting, including training, program management, and high adventure. Participants also must complete a major project after the course. This is offered by the Council once a year.

Permission Slips

Permission slips are required for all activities that are not conducted at the troop's regular meeting place. The troop uses a standard permission slip form (see attached). The slips are available two to four weeks prior to an activity on the troop website at www.t380.org. Please print and complete the forms and return them to the information table.

The permission slip includes information on the event, including the date, time and place of leaving and returning,

the cost of the event, and any extra items the Scout needs to bring. The parent keeps the top half of the form with this information, and turns in the bottom half.

Please make sure all information is completed, including medical information. The phone numbers should be ones where you can absolutely be contacted in case of an emergency for the time period of the event. The slip must be signed by the parent or guardian. These are also used to sign your Scout up for an event, so

if he decides not to attend, please make sure the adult in charge of the activity knows so they can remove his permission slip.

The slip also asks if you can drive or not and how many seatbelts. Please put down the number of seatbelts in your vehicle, EXCLUDING THE DRIVER. Also, make sure your

current vehicle is registered with the troop.

If you have not completed a permission slip, your Scout will not be allowed to participate. Please make sure you have taken care of this very important step when your Scout is participating in an activity.

!!!! PLEASE PICK UP YOUR SCOUT ON TIME !!!!



**BSA TROOP 380
PARENT / GUARDIAN PERMISSION
- EVENT -**

Scouts will be leaving on: _____
Scouts will be leaving from: _____
Scouts will be returning on: _____
Scouts will be returning to: _____

The bottom portion of this form must be signed and returned by the deadline shown below for your scout to attend this function. This reservation obligates you for the cost of the trip whether or not your scout participates.

In case you must contact your scout during this trip, **EMERGENCY ONLY**, please call: _____

The estimated cost of this trip is: _____

(FOR THE PARENT OR GUARDIAN TO TEAR OFF AND KEEP)

- PERMISSION SLIP -

(I) (We) hereby give my permission for _____ to go on a field trip to: _____, on _____.
We will leave at: _____, time: _____.

(I) (We) will drive: **YES** _____, **NO** _____, Number of seat belts: _____.

- MEDICAL CONSENT -

(I) (We), the undersigned, parent/guardian of _____, a minor, do hereby authorize the TROOP ADULT LEADERSHIP as agent(s) for the undersigned to consent to any x-ray, examination, anesthetic, medical or surgical diagnosis or treatment and hospital care which is deemed advisable by and is to be rendered under the general or special supervision of any physician and surgeon licensed under the provisions of the Medical Practice Act on the medical staff of any hospital, whether such diagnosis or treatment is rendered at the office of said physician or at said hospital.

It is understood that this authorization is given in advance of any specific diagnosis or treatment or hospital care being required but is given to provide authority and power on the part of our aforesaid agent(s) to give specific consent to any and all such diagnosis treatment or hospital care which aforementioned physician in the exercise of his/her best judgment may deem advisable.

This authorization is given in pursuant to the provisions of Section 25.8 of the Civil Code of California. Authorization shall remain effective until _____ unless sooner revoked.

(I) (We) hereby authorize any hospital which has provided treatment to the above named minor pursuant to the provisions of Section 25.8 of the Civil Code of California to surrender physical custody of such minor to (my) (our) above named agent(s) upon the completion of treatment. This authorization is given pursuant to Section 1283 of the Health and Safety Code of California.

The above named minor has an allergic reaction to: _____

The above named minor is taking medication for: _____

Return Deadline

Signature of Parent/Guardian and Date

Insurance Policy No. or Military ID Card No.

Emergency Telephone Number

Gear Checklist

We are often asked what a Scout should bring to an activity. This often varies, depending on the activity. If there is something out of the ordinary, or it is a non-campout activity, the Scouts will be told at the meetings what to bring.

As far as campouts, we like to follow the Scout motto "Be Prepared"! Attached is a checklist the troop likes to see every Scout have with him on every campout. Of course, we will sometimes make adjustments depending on where we are camping, the time of year, and the activities we have planned.

The troop supplies tents and cooking equipment. Food arrangements are announced prior to the campout.

Each Scout will probably want to have his own equipment. However, lack of any item will not prevent a Scout from participating on hikes and campouts. It is recommended that parents go slow in accumulating equipment to be sure they get only what is really needed. If your Scout is financially unable to purchase needed equipment at the time, please contact your Scoutmaster or Assistant Scoutmaster and arrangements will be made for your Scout.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Backpack <input type="checkbox"/> Waterproof backpack cover (large plastic bag) <input type="checkbox"/> Sleeping bag <input type="checkbox"/> Sleeping pad <input type="checkbox"/> Poncho or rain suit <input type="checkbox"/> Flashlight (batteries) <input type="checkbox"/> 2 One quart water bottles <input type="checkbox"/> Ground cloth 8'x8' <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Sierra cups <input type="checkbox"/> Tough plastic spoon <input type="checkbox"/> Toothbrush <input type="checkbox"/> Toothpaste <input type="checkbox"/> Floss <input type="checkbox"/> Biodegradable soap <input type="checkbox"/> Deodorant <input type="checkbox"/> Comb/brush <input type="checkbox"/> Wash Cloth <input type="checkbox"/> Small towel <input type="checkbox"/> Socks (prefer wool) <input type="checkbox"/> Underwear <input type="checkbox"/> Long pant (not jeans) <input type="checkbox"/> Long sleeve shirt <input type="checkbox"/> T380 Hoodie <input type="checkbox"/> Camp shoes (besides hiking shoes) <input type="checkbox"/> Swim suit & towel | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Warm hat/beanie <input type="checkbox"/> Gloves <input type="checkbox"/> 1/2 roll toilet paper <input type="checkbox"/> small plastic shovel <input type="checkbox"/> Insect repellent (non-aerosol) <input type="checkbox"/> Moleskin <input type="checkbox"/> Pocketknife or leatherman <input type="checkbox"/> First aid kit <input type="checkbox"/> 30ft nylon cord <input type="checkbox"/> 2 garbage bag <input type="checkbox"/> Repair kit (safety pins, rubber bands, needle, thread) <input type="checkbox"/> Compass <input type="checkbox"/> Chapstick <input type="checkbox"/> Sunscreen <input type="checkbox"/> Daypack <input type="checkbox"/> Scout Handbook <input type="checkbox"/> Watch <p>OPTIONAL:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Camera <input type="checkbox"/> Binoculars <input type="checkbox"/> Fishing gear <input type="checkbox"/> sunglasses <input type="checkbox"/> Survival kit <input type="checkbox"/> Whistle <input type="checkbox"/> Note pad & Pen <input type="checkbox"/> Hiking staff |
|--|---|

Physical Condition/Medications

Each parent is expected to advise the Scoutmaster of any physical condition that would limit their son's activity. The troop can and will work with disabilities, but it is helpful to know about them in advance.

A Scout "Health and Medical Record for Youth" is required before a Scout may attend summer camp or any long term activity. This form must be filled out and signed by a physician or a pediatric nurse practitioner. Scout must have a physical and have the form filled out annually.

Also, please be sure to note any medication your Scout is currently taking on the permission slip.

If it is necessary for your Scout to take medication while on an outing, that medication must be given to and administered by an adult. On each outing, one adult is given this responsibility. All medication must be in its original packaging or bottle with written instructions as to amount, time, etc. must be included. Please put all of this in a ziploc bag with your Scout's name on the outside and give it to the adult in charge of medications when you arrive at the departure point for the event.

Food Arrangements

There are three ways the troop usually arranges for food on campouts.

Patrol Method

Each patrol is responsible for their own food. They plan their own menus and shopping list and designate one Scout in the patrol to purchase the food. The troop will provide an ice chest and plastic box to transport the food in. The patrol is responsible for all of their own cooking.

Every Scout going on the campout is to pay the troop treasurer a set fee no later than the troop meeting prior to the outing. The parent/guardian and Scout who is buying the food will then receive payment for the food in one of two ways:

The food is purchased and the parent/guardian gives receipts to the treasurer, who will reimburse them. Any expenses exceeding \$10 per Scout will need to be collected directly from the Scouts in the patrol. We recommend, however, that \$10 per Scout be used as a budget for the weekend. (This is often more than adequate).

The parent/guardian may request a check from the treasurer

for no more than \$10 per enrolled Scout prior to purchasing the food. A receipt needs to be turned in afterward with any unspent money returned to the treasurer.

If a Scout signs up and pays the treasurer and then cannot/decides not to attend, he will still be responsible for the cost of the food. Credits will only be given if the Scout advises the food purchaser prior to food being bought or advises the treasurer prior to the advance issuance of a check.

Commissary Cooking

With commissary cooking, the troop purchases all of the food for the campout. Every Scout still pays the treasurer a set fee for food. At the campout, each patrol will be given the food for their patrol, and they are responsible for cooking it.

Troop Cooking

While this doesn't happen often, at times the troop will both purchase and cook the food for the Scouts. The Scouts may assist in the cooking and cleanup, but it is done as a troop and not as patrols.

Camping

Summer Camp

Troop 380 attends a week long summer camp each year, usually the first week of July. We strongly encourage all of our Scouts to attend camp, especially those working on rank advancement and merit badges.

Summer camp offers many new experiences for Scouts, and we feel it is a necessity for first year Scouts. We recommend that parents not attend camp with their sons the first year, as it is a great way for them to learn to be independent and self sufficient for a week. Scout to adult ratio is usually about 6:1, so they are well supervised.

Many new Scouts will advance at least one rank and earn one merit badge at summer camp. Experienced Scouts can earn up to four merit badges in a week. Besides advancement, swimming lessons and lifesaving are also offered, along with horseback riding, hiking, a high challenge course for older Scouts, and other activities.

Signups for Summer Camp are usually in December of each year. Cost ranges from \$250 to \$350. Many of our Scouts earn their way through fundraising throughout the year. We hope you will encourage your Scout to take advantage of this wonderful experience.

High Adventure

Our troop also participates in High Adventure activities for older Scouts. These activities are extremely challenging outdoor treks and only available to Scouts aged 14 and older (per Boy Scouts of America). Scouts are eligible only if they are in top physical condition, have several years of camping experience, and are prepared for a 10 day physical challenge.

Our troop has participated in the Northern Tier canoe trek in Minnesota and Canada, backpacking in the Sangre de Cristo Mountains in northern New Mexico at the Philmont Scout Ranch, and climbing Mt. Whitney. These adventures have an additional cost and equipment, and planning for them usually starts one to two years in advance.

Camporee

Camporees are weekend campouts where the Scouts compete by patrol with other patrols in our district in various events. Troop 380 traditionally does very well at these competitions, and we usually spend several weeks preparing for them. They are an excellent way to use and review Scout skills. Many of the events are novel in nature, making it fun and exciting. They also include a cooking contest and a large campfire where new songs and skills are learned. **We expect all Scouts to participate in camporees.**

Campfires

Campfires are usually held on Saturday night on a weekend campout. One Scout is master of ceremonies, and each patrol is expected to contribute at least one song or skit. Campfires are extremely fun, and give the Scouts the opportunity to “let loose”. However, all skits and songs must be in good taste, and must be preapproved by an adult. Uniform is not required, and warm clothes are suggested.

Flags

The raising and lowering of our nation’s flag is held in a solemn ceremony each morning and evening. Class A uniform is always required.

Interfaith Service

Interfaith Service is a nondenominational worship service held on Sunday morning after flags. It is a participatory service led by the Chaplain’s Aide.

Flag Retirement

Our troop accepts aged United States flags for retirement. The flag retirement ceremony is usually held at the campfire.

Reveille & Taps

We enjoy being awoken in the morning by Reveille, and put to bed with Taps at night. If you have an instrument and can participate in this, please let us know.

Rank Advancement

There are seven ranks in Boy Scouts: Scout, Tenderfoot, Second Class, First Class, Star, Life, and Eagle. The Scout Handbook lists the requirements for attaining each of these ranks. Each Scout has the individual responsibility of accomplishing the necessary requirements. While the adults are available to assist him when asked, it is the Scout who must take the initiative. This is one of the greatest lessons in Scouting, but it can also be the hardest. Encourage your Scout to work on his rank advancement.

The ranks of First Class and below are attained by learning and mastering basic Scout skills such as first aid, knots, cooking, and camping. Star, Life and Eagle focus on various merit badges, service to the community, and leadership.

The troop does offer rank advancement assistance a half an hour prior to the troop meeting twice a month. All Scouts who have not attained First Class rank are expected to participate in these sessions. Merit badge classes are also offered at this time.

Scoutmaster Conference

When a Scout has completed all of the requirements except for the Scoutmaster Conference and the Board of Review, he can request a Scoutmaster Conference at the designated time at a troop meeting. All of the other requirements must be completed and signed off before he can make the request.

Scouts will be called and told when his conference is scheduled. He should arrive a few minutes early and let the Scoutmaster know he is there and is ready for his conference. The Scout must be in full Class A uniform, and must have his Scout handbook with him. The conference will not take place otherwise.

At the conference, the Scoutmaster will review the various accomplishments the Scout has made, and will ask questions to

assure himself that the Scout has learned what he is supposed to know for the particular rank. The Scout may be asked things like what to do for a heart attack, how to tie a certain knot, etc. The Scoutmaster will sign off in the Scout’s book only when he is satisfied that the Scout has indeed accomplished the requirements.

Board of Review

After the Scoutmaster has signed off, the Scout may then request a board of review at the troop meeting. Once again, the Scout will be called with a time and date as to his board of review. He must show up in advance, in Class A uniform and with his handbook, and let the person in charge know he is there for his board of review.

The board of review is conducted by at least three adults in the troop and consists of a general overview of the Scout’s experience in Scouting. The Scout will not be asked detailed questions like in the Scoutmaster’s Conference, but more general questions such as the Scout law and promise and how it relates to their lives. The Scout is expected to show that he is applying Scouting principles in his life, that he supports his troop and fellow Scouts, and that he is ready to take on the challenges of the next rank.

A board of review is not conducted for the Scout rank.

Rank Awards

When you have completed all of the requirements for a rank, you need to take your handbook to the advancement chairman who will record it in the troop records. You will receive your rank patch at the next meeting to put on your uniform. At the next court of honor, you will receive your rank card, and your mother’s pin.

Merit Badges

There are over 100 merit badges in a wide variety of subjects available to the Scouts to earn. Any Boy Scout may earn any merit badge at any time. You don't need to have to be a certain rank to be eligible to work on merit badges, though certain merit badges must be earned to attain the ranks of Star, Life and Eagle. Like rank advancement, the Scouts are expected to earn these badges on their own or with the help of a merit badge counselor during one of the merit badge classes offered by the troop prior to meetings.

Summer camp is often an excellent opportunity to earn the badges. However, if a Scout comes home from summer camp with an incomplete merit badge, he will be able to finish it with a local merit badge counselor.

Troop Library

A merit badge library is maintained by the troop, with most of the merit badge handbooks available for checkout by Scouts. Our troop librarian usually has it out at each meeting, and the books are kept up to date by the Scout librarian and the adult librarian.

Please make sure you return the book as soon as you are done with it.

Getting Started

Once you have selected a merit badge you want to work on, you need to see the advancement chairperson. He will give you a list of the merit badge counselors in the District for that badge or you can check the troop website for a counselor within Troop 380. You also need to ask for a "blue card" from the advancement chairperson. The "blue card" is the

recordkeeping for the merit badge. As you complete each requirement, it is signed on the card.

Next, call a merit badge counselor and arrange a meeting. The meeting should always be at a place where someone other than just you and your counselor are present. At the first meeting, the counselor will usually discuss the requirements, and help you with planning. Subsequent meetings will be held to review your completed work, with the counselor signing your blue card.

When all the requirements on the blue card have been signed off, you've completed the merit badge. Congratulations! The counselor will keep one part of the card for their records. The other two parts will be turned in to the Advancement Chairperson who will record it. You will receive the merit badge at the next Court of Honor.

Eagle Required Merit Badge Rotation

Though each Scout is expected to earn Merit Badges on their own, the troop does assist with those merit badges required for Eagle. These merit badge sessions are offered one half hour prior to the start of the meeting twice a month. The badges are rotated so that the troop offers four of them per year, with the cycle repeating itself every three years.

In order to participate in these merit badge sessions, Scouts must be at least Second Class in rank. And because they are offered at the same time as our Rank Advancement sessions, those working on First Class rank are encouraged to complete most of their First Class requirements before beginning the merit badge sessions.

Eagle Scout

The rank of Eagle Scout is the highest award in Scouting, and only 2% of all Scouts attain this rank. Our goal in Troop 380 is for ALL Scouts to attain this rank. In order to assist them, our Troop has an Eagle Advancement Chairperson who works with the boys who have attained Life Scout and are working on their Eagle.

The requirements and procedures for Eagle are much more involved than other ranks. You should meet with the Eagle Advancement Chairperson as soon as you attain your Life rank.

Service Hours

One of the cornerstones to Scouting is service to the community. As part of this, our troop participates in various service activities during the year. All Scouts are expected to participate in these activities, which include Scouting for Food, flag ceremonies, Safetyville USA, and Eagle projects.

As part of rank advancement, service hours are required. This service does not need to be a part of a structured troop activity. However, if a Scout wants to have service time count towards advancement, the activity must be approved in advance by the Scoutmaster.

Firem'n Chit and Totin' Chip

The Firem'n Chit is awarded to Scouts who have passed fire safety training. This training is traditionally taught at the New Skills Campout in April of each year, but may be offered at other times. Scouts must have earned this Chit and have it with them to use an ax or to build a fire.

The Totin' Chip is awarded to Scouts who have passed knife safety training. This training is traditionally taught at the New Skills Campout in April of each year, but may be offered at other times. Scouts must have earned this Chit and have it with them to use a pocketknife or Leatherman.

Other Awards

There are various other awards available both in the troop and in Scouting. These are just a few of them.

Patrol Spirit Award

This is awarded at each Court of Honor to the patrol who has shown the most spirit in the troop in the previous quarter.

Honor Scout Award

This prestigious award is given at each Court of Honor to the Scout in the troop who has shown the most Scout spirit. The recipient is chosen by the prior Honor Scouts in the troop.

National Youth Leadership Training

Scouts may participate in a week long, or two weekends, leadership training course offered each year by the Council. After they have completed the course, they must also do a troop project.

Polar Bear Award

The troop also awards a Polar Bear Award to Scouts that have taken "the plunge" into cold water either at a campout (like Folsom Lake in February) or at summer camp (in the lake or pool at 6:00 am).

Scoutmaster's Award

The Scoutmaster award is presented to an adult in the troop who has made a substantial contribution to the troop. It is awarded at each Court of Honor.

Songs

Marching Song (to the tune of the *The Ants go Marching*)

Grunt, Grunt, Grunt, Grunt

Grunt, Grunt, Grunt, Grunt

We're the men from Three, Eight, Oh

You've heard so much about

The judges hide the ribbons

Whenever we're about

We tie our knots with lightning speed

We lash our poles too

We're the men from Three, Eight, Oh

Who the heck are you?

Scout Vespers

Softly falls the light of day

As our campfire fades away

Silently each Scout should ask

Have I done my daily task?

Have I kept my honor bright?

Can I guiltless sleep tonight?

Have I done and have I dared

Everything to be prepared?

